

EUR 12: The Europeans' Europe

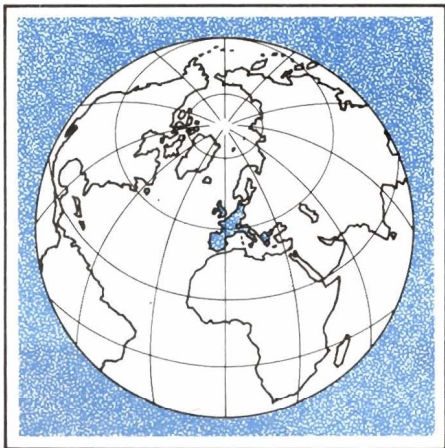
DAILY LIFE IN DIAGRAMS



European File

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Communication, Culture
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7-8/87
April 1987



1952 : EUR 6



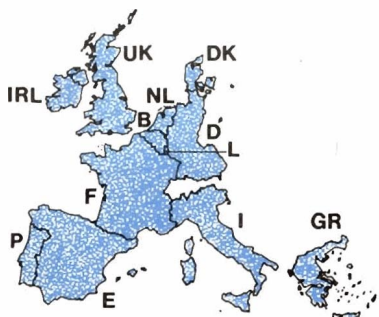
1973 : EUR 9



1981 : EUR 10



1986 : EUR 12



This issue was prepared with the assistance of Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Community.

Abbreviations used for the names of Community member countries are shown on the map opposite. Also: JAP = Japan.

There are 322 million people living in the European Community. That figure is greater than the population of the United States of America (237 million) or the Soviet Union (275 million), but it cannot disguise the fact that the nations of Europe account for a dwindling proportion of the world's population (see diagram p. 5). Consequently one of the few ways to maintain or strengthen Europe's role in the world is to construct a solid, coherent and dynamic Community.

Compared to those who live in other parts of the world, Europeans enjoy a good quality of life: witness their life expectancy at birth, which is much longer than the world average and especially longer than that of Africans (p. 6). A high standard of sanitation and medical care plays a role in this (p. 7); it is one of the factors that explain the spectacular decline in infant mortality (p. 8).

Measured on the world scale, the standard of living of Europeans is enviable. However, the figures for consumption by household ¹ (pp. 9 and 10) reveal distinct variations among the different member countries of the Community. Notice also how the growth of consumption has generally shown a marked slowdown in recent years, and the gap between Europe and the United States in this regard has widened even further.

There is another sign of the seriousness of Europe's economic and social difficulties: unemployment and its particular impact on certain categories of the population (p. 11): women and, above all, young people (who on average are twice as badly affected as adults in the Community, although there too there are marked differences from country to country). The quality of education is therefore a crucial problem for Europe, whose future depends in large part on the way the studies of the rising generations are oriented (p. 12).

This special issue of *European File* — which complements No 5-6/86, published in March 1986 — focuses on daily life and on the quality of life. In doing so it cannot ignore emotional life (p. 13) or leisure. Several diagrams have been included on the subject of working hours (p. 14), holidays (p. 15), departures on holiday (p. 16) and international tourism (p. 17). This last not only has social and economic implications but also contributes to closer relations between the peoples of Europe.

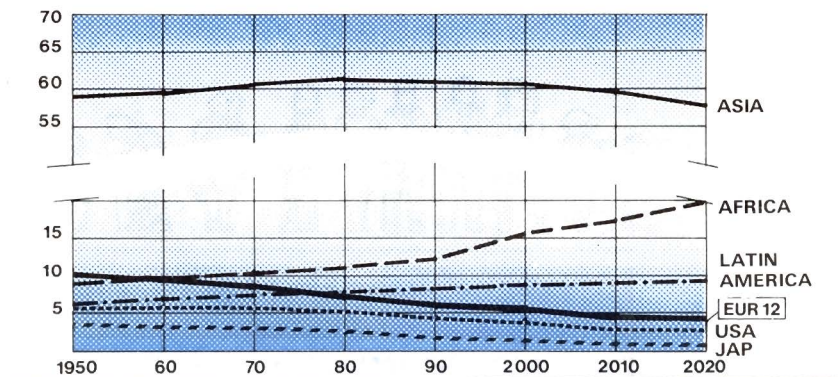


¹ Measured in purchasing power standard (PPS), which has the advantage of representing in all cases an identical volume of goods and services, regardless of price levels.

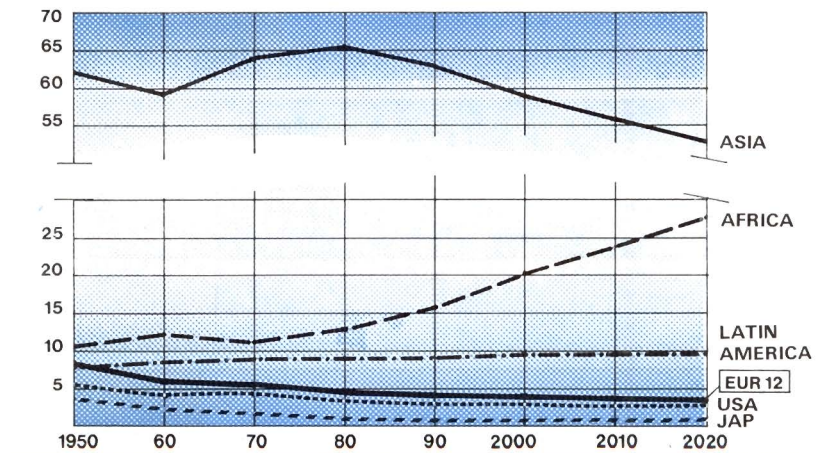
Close to each other in many respects, dissimilar in others, the citizens of the 12 Member States of the Community are also citizens of Europe. They have elected their representatives in the European Parliament (p. 18) and the great majority of them approve of efforts towards European unification (p. 19). It is to be hoped that these diagrams — which can often convey more than long discourses do — may help them towards a better knowledge and appreciation of each other ■

EUROPE: A DWINDLING PROPORTION OF WORLD POPULATION

Total population, as % of world population



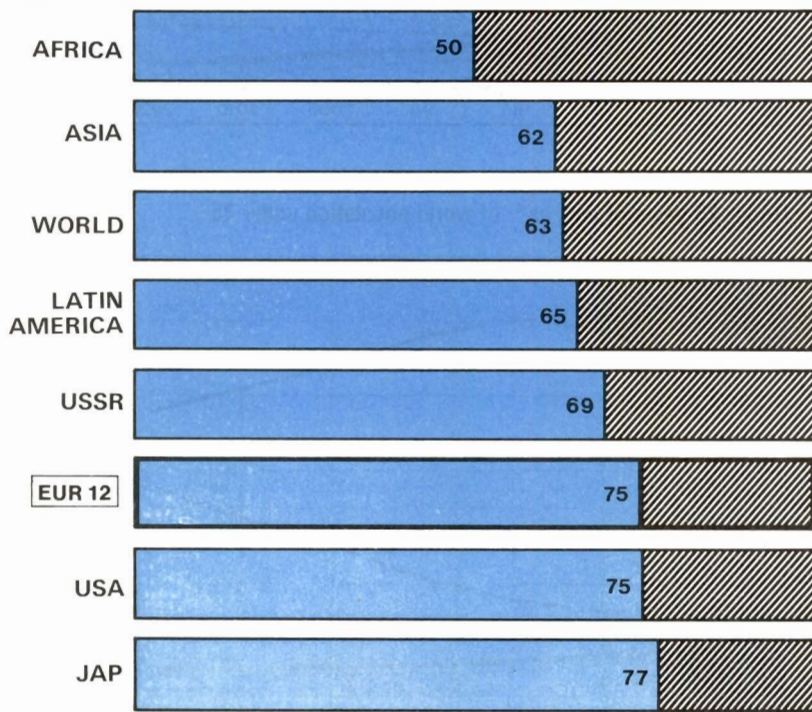
Under 25 years of age, as % of world population under 25



Source: Eurostat.

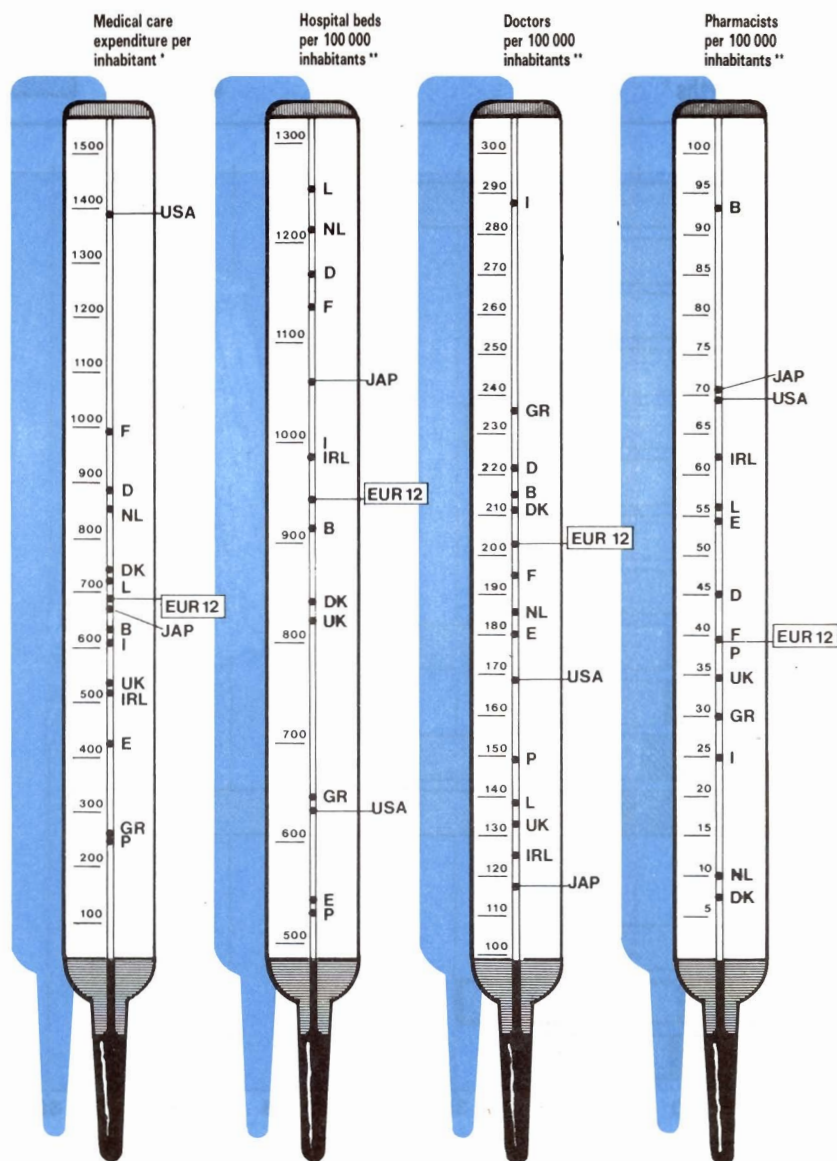
A LONGER LIFE

Life expectancy at birth (1984, in years)



Source: Eurostat.

SERVING OUR HEALTH



* 1982, in dollars at purchasing power parities. Source: OECD.

** 1981. Source: Eurostat.

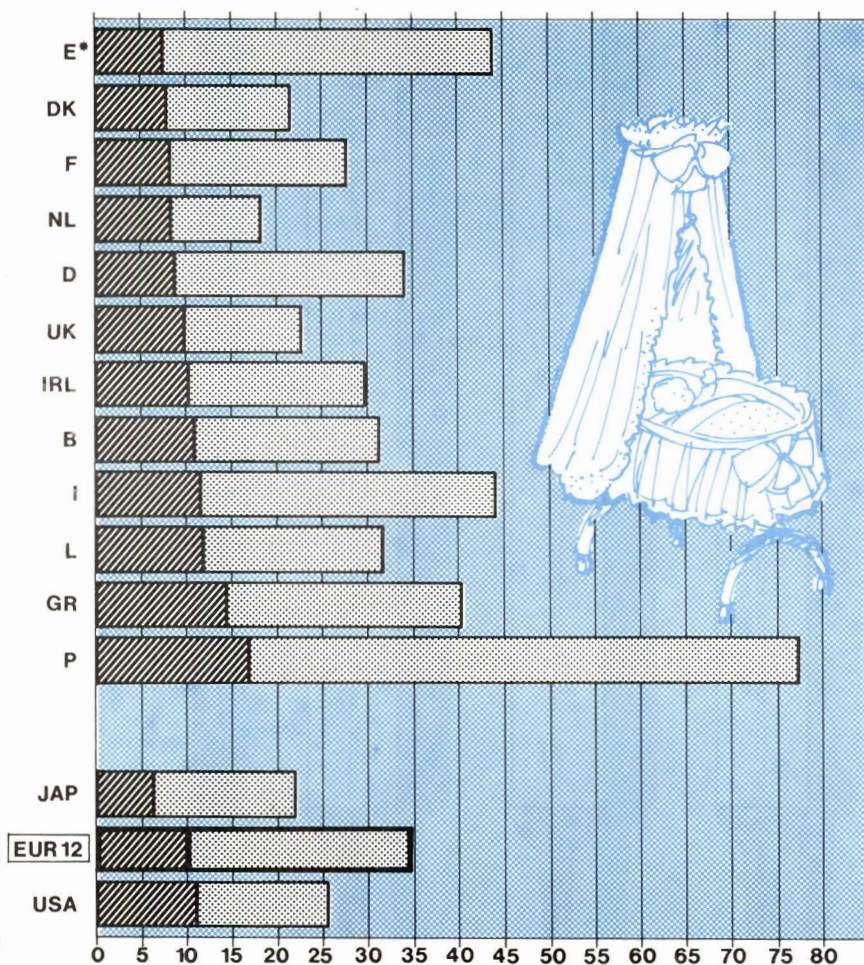
INFANT MORTALITY: A QUARTER OF A CENTURY OF PROGRESS

Number of deaths at less than one year per 1 000 live births *

1984



1960

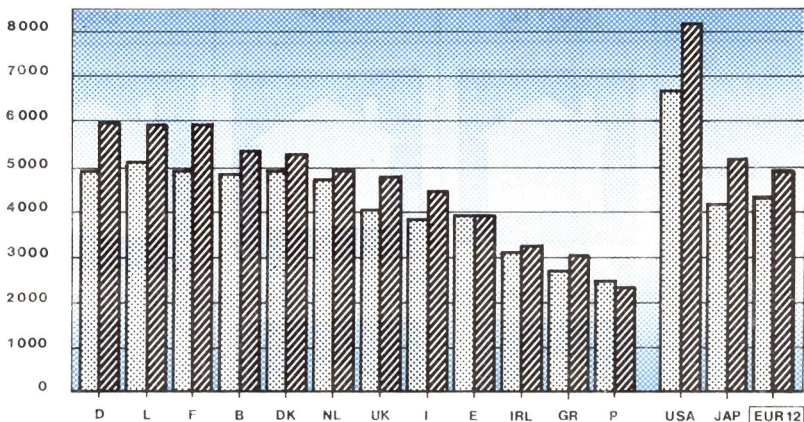


* 1983.

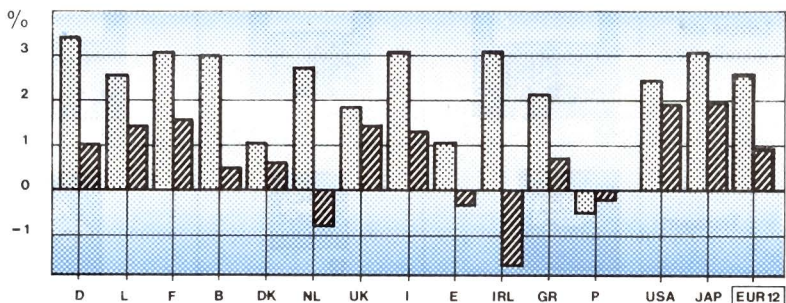
Source: Eurostat.

PRIVATE CONSUMPTION AND ITS EVOLUTION

Consumption of households, per inhabitant *



Average annual variation in household consumption by volume (%)


















* In volume and purchasing power standard, at 1980 prices and purchasing power parities. 1985 values estimated for the United States and Japan.

Source: Eurostat.

WHO CONSUMES WHAT?

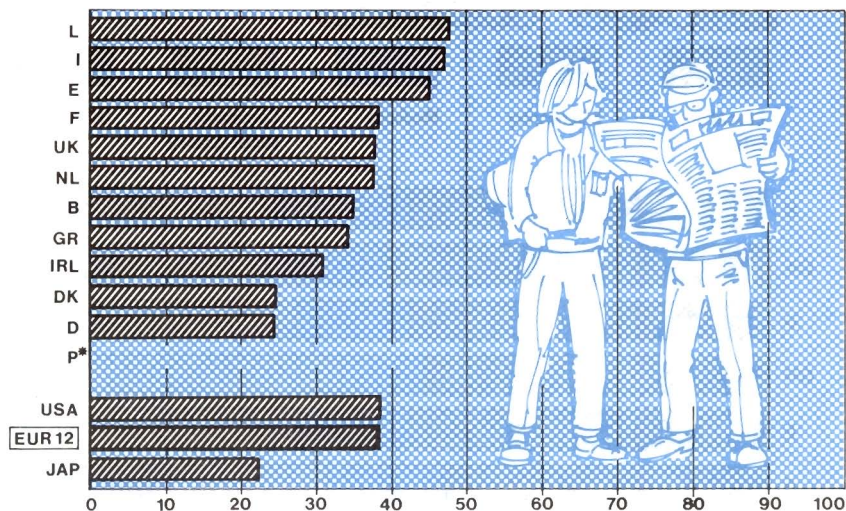
Distribution of household consumption (as % of total, 1983)

	EUR 12	JAP	USA
Gross rent	 28	 31	 32
Food	 25	 30	 19
Leisure and miscellaneous	 23	 19	 23
Transport	 16	 12	 19
Clothing	 8	 8	 7

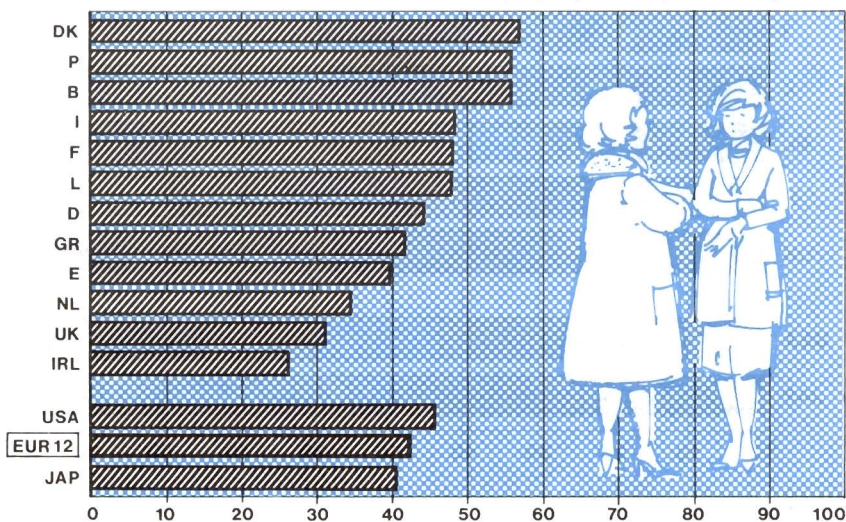
Source: Eurostat.

DANGER: UNEMPLOYMENT

Proportion of young people under 25 in the total of unemployed persons
(as %, 1985)



Proportion of women in the total of unemployed persons (as %, 1985)



* Not available.

Source: Eurostat.

CHOICE OF STUDIES

Orientation of third-level students (as % of the total, for the year 1982-83)



Education,
arts



Engineering



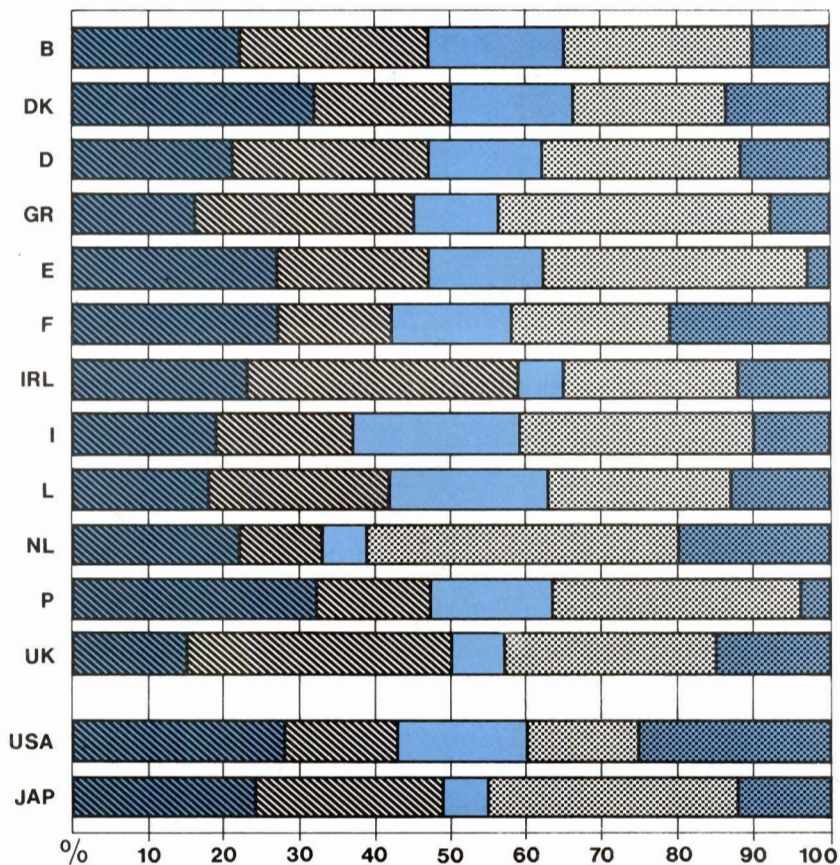
Medicine



Commerce,
social science

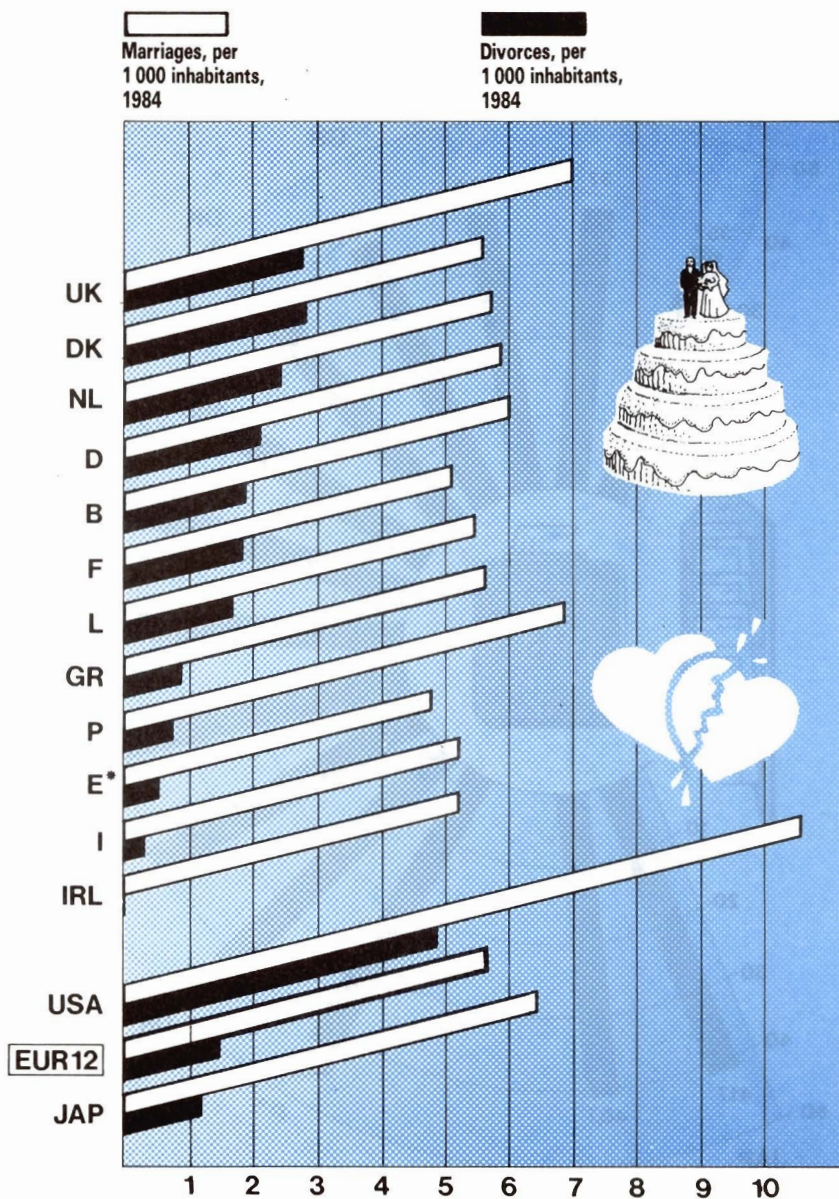


Others



Source: Eurostat.

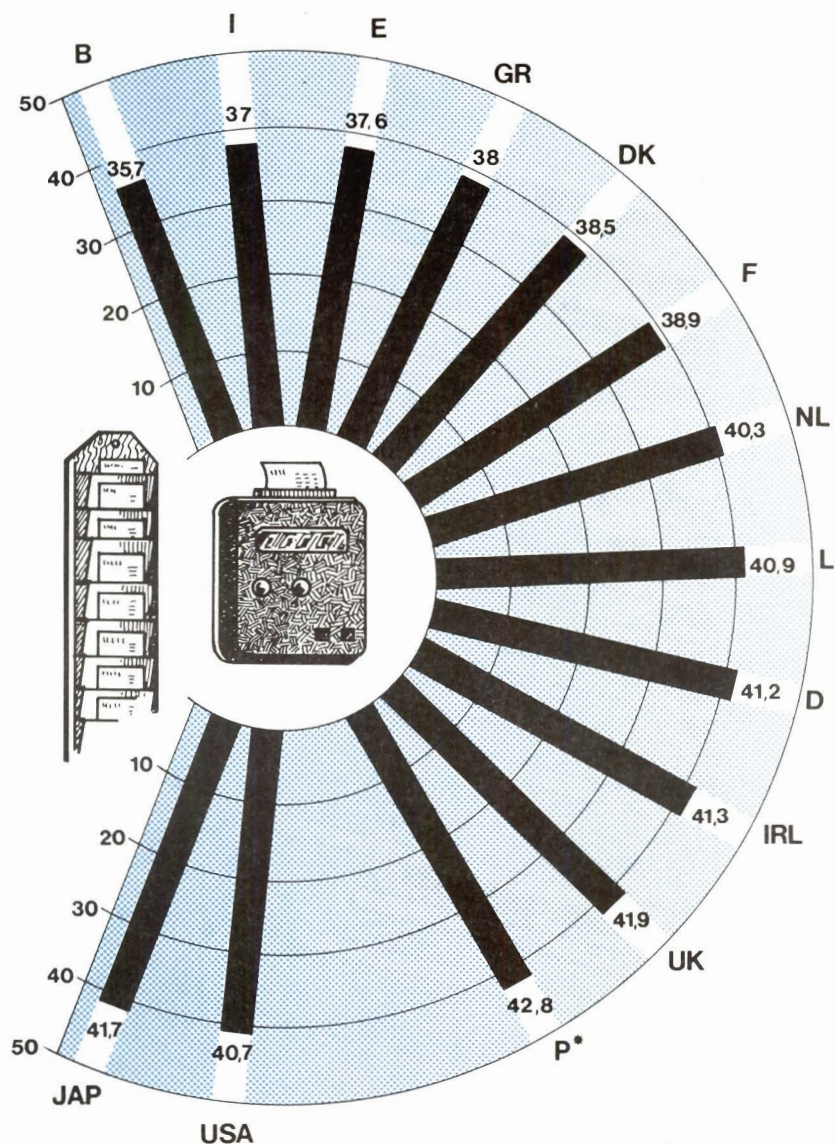
MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES



Source: Eurostat.

THE WORKING WEEK

Weekly duration of work (1984, in hours)



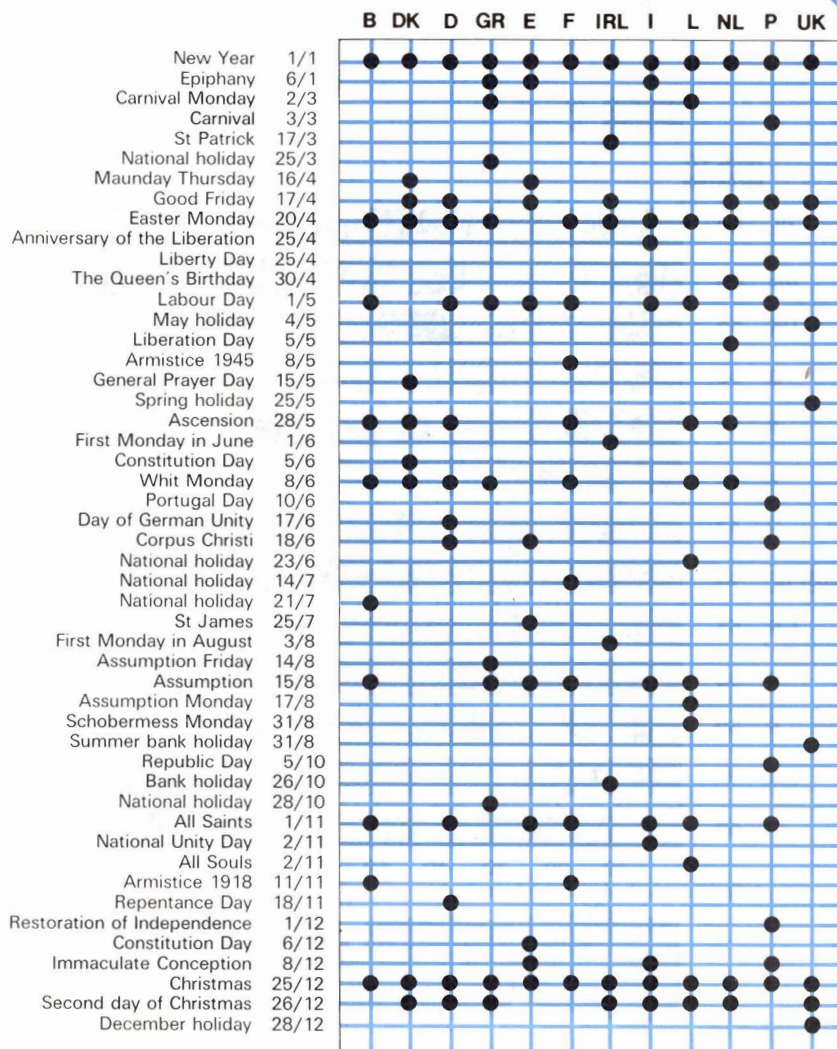
* 1982.

Source: Eurostat.

FREE TIME

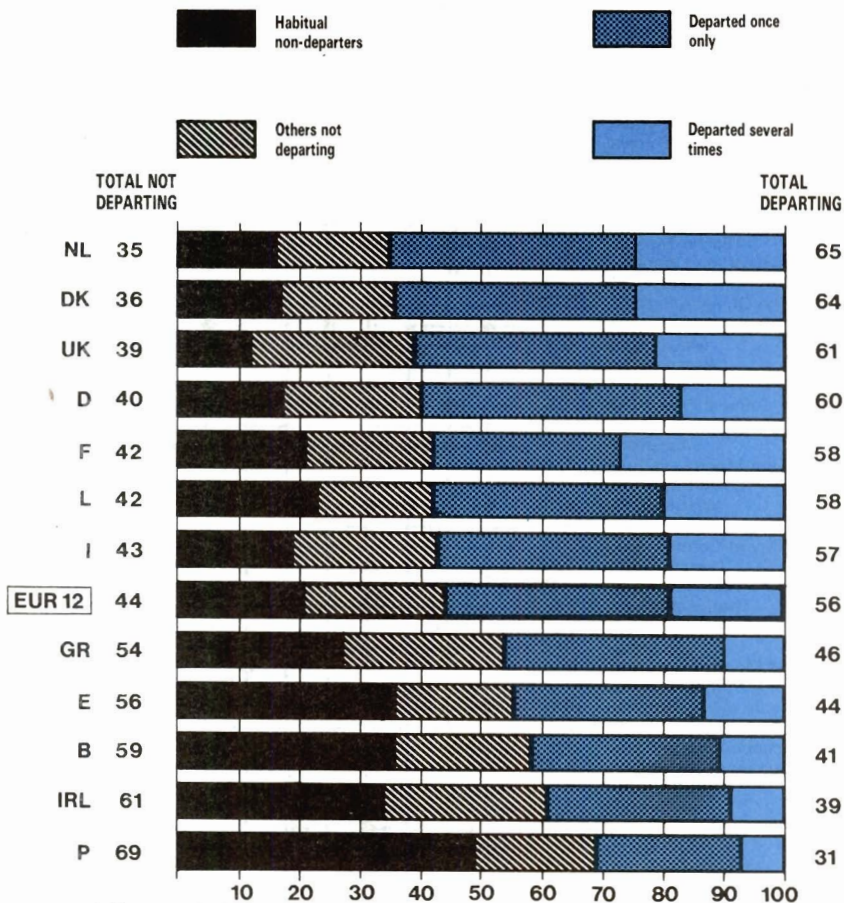
Principal holidays in 1987

Europe Day: 9 May

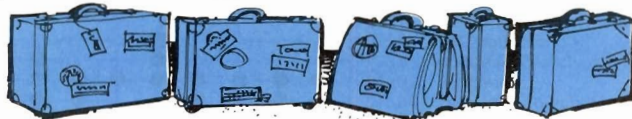


TOURISM: THE SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Departures on holiday * (as % of total population, 1985)



* For a period of at least four days.



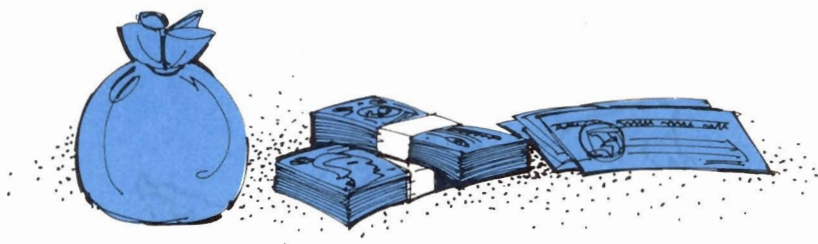
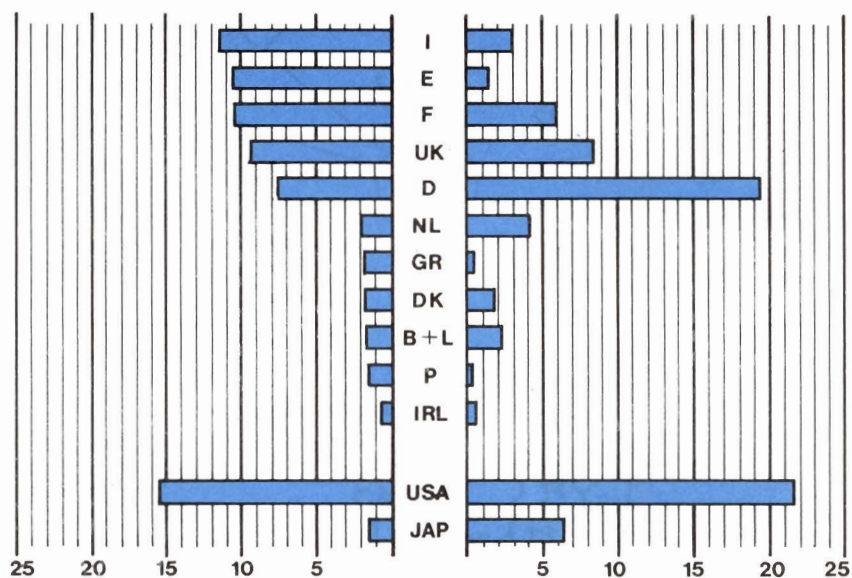
Source: Survey organized by European Omnibus Survey for the Commission of the European Communities in March-April 1986.

TOURISM: THE ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

International tourism receipts and expenditure (× 1 000 million ECU, 1985)

Receipts from
abroad

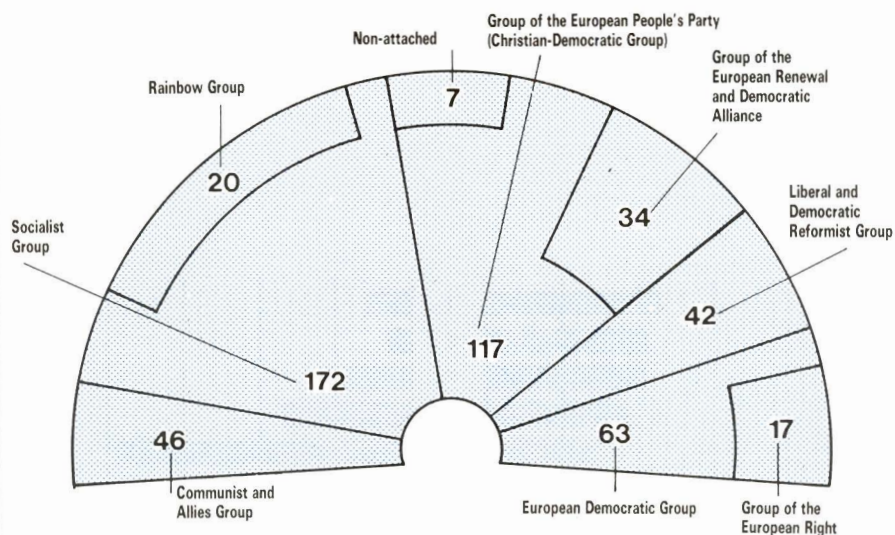
Expenditure
abroad



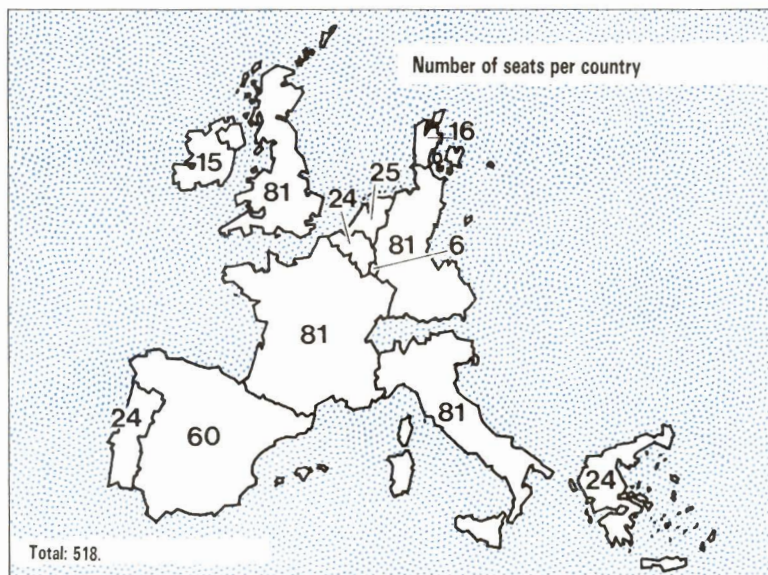
Source: Eurostat.

CITIZENS OF EUROPE: REPRESENTED AND DEFENDED

European Parliament: Composition by political group *



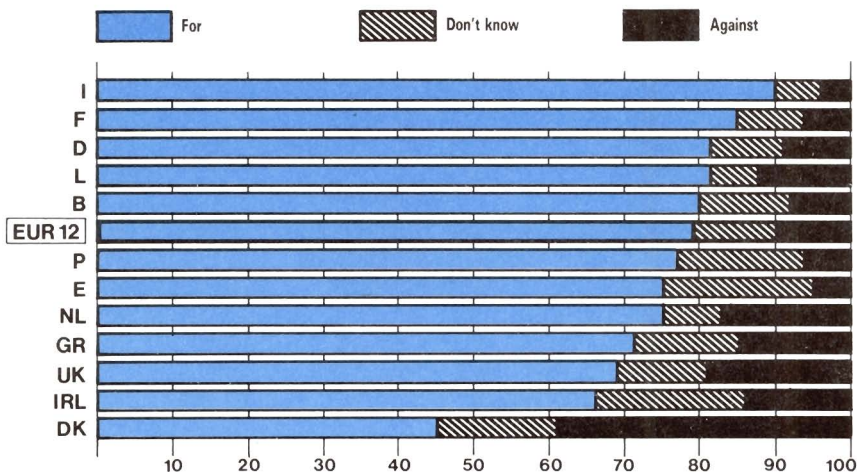
* On 26 January 1987.



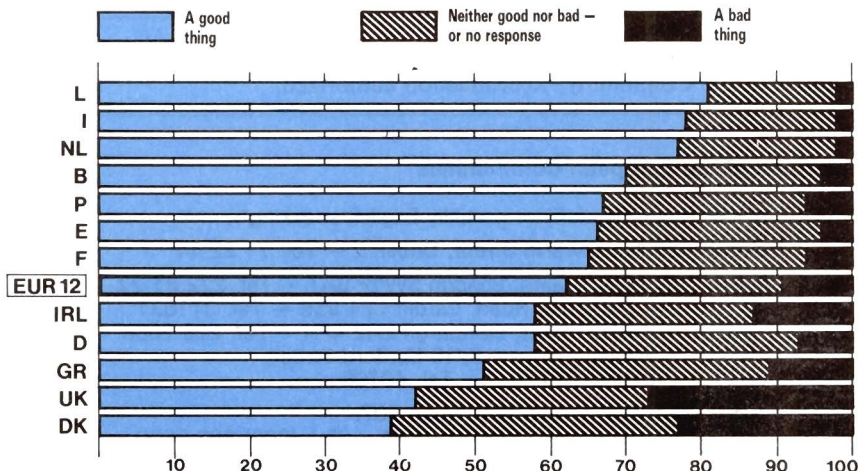
CITIZENS OF EUROPE: A DEMOCRATIC CHOICE

'Generally speaking, are you for or against the efforts made to unify Western Europe?'

(as %) *



'Is the fact that your country belongs to the European Community a good or a bad thing?' (as %) *



* Replies to the 'Eurobarometer' survey No 26, organized for the Commission of the European Communities by European Omnibus Survey (11 837 people questioned throughout the Community in October-November 1986).

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